

BEFORE THE
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

STACY LORENE HARDEN
a.k.a. STACY LORENE SMITH
3130 Airline Highway
Hollister, CA 95023

Registered Nurse License No. **395820**

Respondent

Case No. 2011-383

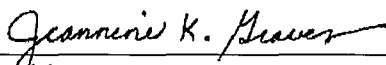
OAH No. 2011030744

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on **September 2, 2011.**

IT IS SO ORDERED **August 5, 2011.**



President
Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
2 DIANN SOKOLOFF
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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8
9 **BEFORE THE**
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2011-383

12 **STACY LORENE HARDEN**
13 **a.k.a. STACY LORENE SMITH**
3130 Airline Highway
14 Hollister, CA 95023

OAH No. 2011030744

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

15 **Registered Nurse License No. 395820**

16 Respondent.

17
18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
19 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of
22 Registered Nursing (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is
23 represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by
24 Aspasia A. Papavassiliou, Deputy Attorney General.

25 2. Stacy Lorene Harden also known as Stacy Lorene Smith (Respondent) is representing
26 herself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.
27
28

3. On or about March 31, 1986, the Board issued Registered Nurse License No. 395820 to Respondent. The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2011-383 and will expire on May 31, 2011, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2011-383 was filed before the Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 26, 2010. Respondent filed a Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2011-383 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2011-383. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2011-383.

9. Respondent agrees that her Registered Nurse License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

RESERVATION

10. The admissions made by Respondent in this stipulation are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

CONTINGENCY

11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and Board staff may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 395820 issued to Stacy Lorene Harden also known as Stacy Lorene Smith (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

2. **Comply with the Board's Probation Program.** Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

1 3. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall
2 appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.

3 4. **Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State.** Periods of residency
4 or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this
5 probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she resides outside of
6 California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of
7 residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or
8 returning to practice in this state.

9 Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been licensed
10 as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide
11 information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the
12 term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a new nursing
13 license during the term of probation.

14 5. **Submit Written Reports.** Respondent, during the period of probation,
15 shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions
16 under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain
17 statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation
18 Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be
19 required by the Board or its representatives.

20 Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every
21 state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

22 6. **Function as a Registered Nurse.** Respondent, during the period of
23 probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24
24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

25 For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing"
26 may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any
27 non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

28 The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing

1 for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

2 If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and
3 Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this
4 condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an
5 extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to
6 comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation
7 shall apply.

8 **7. Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements.** Respondent shall
9 obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or
10 voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all
11 performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request
12 of the Board.

13 Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate
14 supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

15 In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two
16 (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent
17 shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated or
18 separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a
19 full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

20 **8. Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board
21 regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or
22 continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient
23 care.

24 Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good
25 standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods
26 of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are
27 approved.

28 Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the

1 following:

2 (a) Maximum - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in
3 the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.

4 (b) Moderate - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient
5 care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.

6 (c) Minimum - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-to-
7 person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.

8 (d) Home Health Care - If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care
9 setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person
10 communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall
11 maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision
12 and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing
13 supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to
14 patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.

15 9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's
16 registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a
17 traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

18 Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the
19 registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the
20 Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits
21 are required.

22 Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses.
23 The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses
24 and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

25 Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an
26 instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

27 Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined
28 worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

1 If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may
2 request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

3 10. **Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent, at her own expense, shall
4 enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later
5 than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

6 Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s).
7 Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the
8 above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after
9 photocopying them for its records.

10 11. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with
11 its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the
12 amount of \$3,350. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved
13 by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the
14 probation term.

15 If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and
16 Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this
17 condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an
18 extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to
19 comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation
20 will apply.

21 12. **Violation of Probation.** If Respondent violates the conditions of her
22 probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside
23 the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation) of Respondent's license.

24 If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been
25 filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare
26 an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary
27 period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has
28 been acted upon by the Board.

1 13. **License Surrender.** During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases
2 practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of
3 probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to
4 evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to
5 take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further
6 hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no
7 longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

8 Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall
9 become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license
10 has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following
11 minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

12 (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other
13 than a mental or physical illness; or

14 (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.

15 14. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this
16 Decision, Respondent, at her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or
17 physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an
18 assessment of the Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a
19 registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If
20 medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the
21 Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports
22 to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

23 If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the
24 licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall
25 immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the
26 Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall
27 immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this
28 period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by

1 the Board is required until the Board has notified Respondent that a medical determination
2 permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction
3 of this probationary time period.

4 If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day
5 requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until
6 notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this
7 probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant,
8 documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts
9 by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided.
10 Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

11 **15. Participate in Treatment/Rehabilitation Program for Chemical**
12 **Dependence.** Respondent, at her expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary
13 period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-
14 approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months duration. As required, reports
15 shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not
16 completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of
17 probation, Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in
18 a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation,
19 the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

20 Based on Board recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least
21 one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous,
22 Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as approved and directed by the Board.
23 If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12-step meeting or equivalent shall be
24 added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to
25 the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan
26 recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner
27 and/or other ongoing recovery groups.
28

1 16. **Abstain from Use of Psychotropic (Mood-Altering) Drugs.** Respondent
2 shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of all
3 controlled substances and all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when
4 the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so as part of
5 documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within
6 fourteen (14) days, by the prescribing health professional, a report identifying the medication,
7 dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, the Respondent's prognosis, the date the
8 medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

9 Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician
10 assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and
11 monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-
12 altering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report
13 to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances
14 considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited
15 use of any such substances.

16 The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician
17 assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive
18 medicine.

19 17. **Submit to Tests and Samples.** Respondent, at her expense, shall
20 participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board
21 approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board.
22 Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone
23 number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone
24 number when she is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing
25 agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately
26 to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

27 In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate
28 with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such tests and

1 samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics,
2 hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

3 If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not
4 reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board
5 files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from
6 practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This
7 period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

8 If Respondent fails to participate in a random, biological fluid testing or drug screening
9 program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall
10 not resume practice until notified by the Board. After taking into account documented evidence
11 of mitigation, if the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may
12 suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation
13 or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary
14 time period.

15 18. **Mental Health Examination.** Respondent shall, within 45 days of the
16 effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing
17 as appropriate to determine her capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The
18 examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health
19 practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a
20 written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the
21 responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a
22 result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

23 If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the
24 licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the
25 Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's
26 office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease
27 practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of
28 suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board

1 is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits
2 Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this
3 probationary time period.

4 If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day
5 requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until
6 notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this
7 probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant,
8 documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts
9 by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided.
10 Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

11 19. **Therapy or Counseling Program.** Respondent, at her expense, shall
12 participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases her from this
13 requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from
14 the counselor will be required at various intervals.

15 20. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this
16 decision, Respondent, at her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or
17 physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an
18 assessment of Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered
19 nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically
20 determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by Respondent
21 with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports on forms
22 provided by the Board.

23 ///

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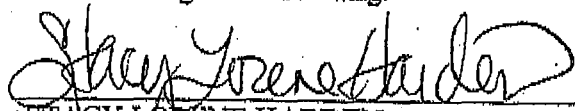
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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

DATED:

6/6/11



STACY LORENE HARDEN
a.k.a. STACY LORENE SMITH
Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

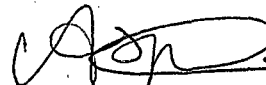
The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated:

6/6/2011

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
DIANN SOKOLOFF
Supervising Deputy Attorney General



ASPASIA A. PAPAVALASSILIOU
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

SF2010900386
Stipulation.rtf

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2011-383

1 EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Attorney General of California
2 DIANN SOKOLOFF
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 ASPASIA A. PAPAVALASSIOU
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Attorneys for Complainant

8
9 **BEFORE THE**
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2011-383

12 **STACY LORENE HARDEN**
13 **a.k.a. STACY LORENE SMITH**
14 581 Leisure Court
Hollister, CA 95023-5626

ACCUSATION

15 **Registered Nurse License No. 395820**

16 Respondent.

17
18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her
21 official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department
22 of Consumer Affairs.

23 2. On or about March 31, 1986, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered
24 Nurse License Number 395820 to Stacy Lorene Harden, also known as Stacy Lorene Smith
25 (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to
26 the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on May 31, 2011, unless renewed.
27
28

JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 2750 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

5. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

6. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender, or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

7. Section 2761, subdivision (a), of the Code provides that the Board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse for unprofessional conduct.

8. Section 2762 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

...

"(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

1 "(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or
2 self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section,
3 or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in
4 subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence
5 thereof."

6 COST RECOVERY

7 9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the
8 administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of
9 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
10 enforcement of the case.

11 FACTS

12 10. On or around April 8, 2008, Respondent was convicted, upon her plea of no contest
13 on April 3, 2008, of a misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b)
14 (Driving With A Blood Alcohol Level of .08% or Higher), in *People of the State of California v.*
15 *Stacy Lorne Harden* [sic], San Benito County Case No. CR-08-00276. The offense occurred in
16 Hollister, California, on December 29, 2007, when Respondent consumed alcoholic beverages
17 before driving.

18 11. On or around September 1, 2009, Respondent was convicted, upon her plea of guilty,
19 of a misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b) (Driving With A
20 Blood Alcohol Level of .08% or Higher), in *People of the State of California v. Stacy Lorene*
21 *Harden*, San Benito County Case No. CR-09-01097. The offense occurred in Hollister,
22 California, on May 10, 2009, when Respondent consumed alcoholic beverages before driving.

23 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

24 (Unprofessional Conduct: Use of Alcoholic Beverages in Dangerous Manner)

25 12. Respondent has subjected her registered nurse to discipline under Code sections 2761,
26 subdivision (a), and 2762, subdivision (b), in that she committed unprofessional conduct by
27 consuming alcoholic beverages in a dangerous manner. The circumstances are described in
28 paragraphs 10 and 11, above.

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